

REMARKS

Claim amendments

Claim 25 is amended herein to remove nucleoside methylphosphonate from the moieties to be introduced into the immunostimulatory oligonucleotide and to restore 2'-5' linkage. No new matter has been added.

Rejection of Claim 25 Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Krieg et al., WO00/06588. Krieg is alleged to suggest introducing a nucleoside methylphosphonate into an immunostimulatory oligonucleotide. Claim 25 has been amended to remove nucleoside methylphosphonate from the moieties to be introduced into the immunostimulatory oligonucleotide. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment overcomes the rejection and thus request that the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at 781-933-6630.

Respectfully submitted,

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